

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Edwin Bolduan et al  
Application Number: Unassigned  
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith  
Group Art Unit:  
Examiner:  
Title: WASHING MACHINE WITH A VENTILATION SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

DE 101 22 514 discloses that the rinsing device (5) has the walls which come into contact with the rinsing medium supplied to the working drum (1) of the laundry or dish washing machine at least partially provided with a self-cleaning structured surface, e.g. a micro-structured surface, provided during manufacture or via a subsequent surface treatment.

DE 1 460 837 discloses a detergent dispensing device for automatic washing machines, consisting essentially of a trough-shaped detergent receptacle with a water inlet oriented towards the base of the receptacle and arranged in the vicinity of one of its two end walls, and an outlet nozzle arranged on the underside of its base in the vicinity of the other end wall, characterized in that the outlet nozzle (8) incorporates an extension of equal cross-section to the latter (10) which extends upwards into the detergent receptacle (1), the said extension being closed by a cover which incorporates a number of perforations or slots (12, 13) and perforated on its reverse side, i.e. the part of its circumference facing away from the water inlet (4, 5), by numerous vertical slots (11).

EP 0 702 104 discloses that a top-loading washing machine comprises openings (2) leading from the interior of the washing soln. container (6) to the washing machine interior

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through a rubber siphon (1). The openings (2) are located above the free outlet of the washing soln. container (6) and the water flushing system (7).

DE 196 19 602 discloses a washing machine (1) has a flushing tub housing (5) for a pull-out detergent drawer. The housing (5) has an opening (6) at the bottom for the discharge of the water/detergent mixture. The opening (6) of the housing (5) is divided into a flushing section (11) for the mixture and a ventilation section (12) for the washing solution container (4).

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



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February 24, 2006

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Art Unit	
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**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 101 22 514	03-14-2002	Peter Wild		
		GB 2 379 452	03-12-2003	Evan James Stevens		✓
		DE 1 460 837	04-17-1969	Karl Sautter		
		EP 0 969 132	01-05-2000	Laurence P. Didlick		✓
		EP 0 702 104	03-20-1996	Erich Barth		
		DE 196 19 602	11-20-1997	Heinz Kafferlein		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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